

50. The method of claim 47 wherein the processor is responsive to the output signals from the detector adapted to determine the denomination of each scanned bill before that bill has been advanced to the plurality of output receptacles, and further comprising altering the movement of a scanned bill in response to the denomination determination for that bill from the processor, before that bill is advanced to the plurality of output receptacles.

51. The method of claim 47 wherein the stored signal samples are produced by scanning the preselected segments of different denominations with the scanning head and samples and sampling the output signal at the preselected intervals.

52. The method of claim 47 wherein transporting and scanning is performed at a rate of at least about 1000 bills per minute.--

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending in the present application. The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for allowing Claims 8-22. Claims 1-7 and 23 presently stand rejected and are addressed below. New Claims 24-52 have been added.

Information Disclosure Statement

The Applicants submit herewith a Third Information Disclosure Statement, and respectfully request that the Examiner consider the reference therein with regard to the present application.

Drawings

The Applicants are also submitting formal drawings under separate cover to overcome the objections under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.84(l) and 1.84(m).

§ 103(a) Rejection

Claims 1-7 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over “Description Of Toshiba-Mosler CF-420 Device” (hereinafter “CF-420 Device”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,430,644 to Cargill et al. (hereinafter “Cargill”). Independent Claims 1 and 23 recite, *inter alia*, a transport mechanism adapted to transport the bills in the direction of the narrow dimension at a rate in excess of about 800 bills per minute. Independent Claims 1 and 23 also recite a discriminating unit adapted to determine the denomination of each of the bills at a rate in excess of about 800 bills per minute.

As acknowledged in the Office Action, the CF-420 Device does not disclose a transport mechanism for transporting the bills at a rate in excess of 800 bills per minute. Cargill is said to achieve an operating speed on the order of 1200 documents per minute. Cargill, however, is simply a document counter for counting and verifying documents. See, *e.g.*, Abstract, column 2, lines 20-21 and 40-45. Cargill does not teach or suggest using a discriminating unit for determining the denomination of each of the bills. Rather, Cargill discloses that the denominations of documents to be counted are part of an initialization selection by the operator. See column 14, lines 32-36. This is further evidenced by the fact that Cargill discloses that it would be desirable to display counts, such as piece counts, of operator-designated denominations. See column 1, lines 36-43.

Thus, there is no teaching or suggestion that if the Cargill transport were used in the CF-420 device, the CF-420 device could operate and denominate at a rate in excess of 800 bills per minute. There is also no teaching or suggestion that the transport mechanism of the one pocket

Cargill machine (see, *i.e.*, FIG. 1) would function in the multipocket CF-420 Device (three pockets).

Therefore, Claims 1 and 23 are not obvious over the CF-420 Device, Cargill, or any combination thereof and, thus, are in condition for allowance. Since Claims 2-7 and new Claim 26 depend either directly or indirectly on Claim 1, they are also in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons. In addition, the applied references of the CF-420 Device, Cargill, or any combination thereof do not teach or suggest, *inter alia*, an authenticating unit that includes a plurality of magnetoresistive sensors as recited in Claims 5-7. Since new Claim 27 depends on Claim 23, it should also be in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons.

New Claims

New independent Claims 24, 28, 30, 35, 45 and 47 have been added. Claim 24 is similar to Claim 23 and should be allowable for at least the reasons set forth thereto, including “a transport mechanism adapted to transport the bills in the direction of the narrow dimension of the bills . . . at a rate in excess of about 800 bills per minute” and “a discriminating unit adapted to determine the denomination of each of the bills at a rate in excess of about 800 bills per minute.” Neither the CF-420 Device, Cargill, nor any combination thereof teach or suggest such features. Additionally, Claim 25, which depends on Claim 24, should also be in condition for allowance.

Claim 28 is similar to allowed Claim 8 and, therefore, should be allowable along with its dependent claim (Claim 29). Likewise, Claim 30 is similar to allowed Claim 16 and, therefore, should be allowable along with its dependent claims (Claims 31-34).

Claim 35 is a method claim that should be allowable because neither the CF-420 Device, Cargill, nor any combination thereof teach or suggest transporting and determining the

denominations of the bills in the direction of the narrow dimension of the bills at a rate in excess of about 800 bills per minute. Claims 36-44, which depend either directly or indirectly on Claim 35, should also be in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons.

Claim 45 is a method claim for evaluating currency bills using a currency evaluation device that is similar to the currency evaluating device of allowable Claim 8. Claim 47 is a method for evaluating currency bills using a currency evaluation device that is similar to the currency evaluating device of allowed Claim 16. Therefore, Claims 45 and 47, along with their dependent claims (Claims 46 and 48-52), should be in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

It is the Applicants' belief that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance, and action towards that effect is respectfully requested.

If there are any matters which may be resolved or clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the number indicated.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

11/18/98



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